



**PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE**  
DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS  
1800 ELMERTON AVENUE  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17110

Mailing Date: July 31, 2019

Emma Best  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 75666  
411A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, Massachusetts 02144-2516

PSP/RTKL Request N° 2019-0668

Dear Ms. Best:

On June 24, 2019, the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) received your request for information pursuant to Pennsylvania's Right-to-Know Law (RTKL), 65 P.S. §§ 67.101 - 67.3104, wherein you state:

Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right to Know Act, I hereby request the following records:

Records mentioning, describing or generated as a result of the 8 May 2015 Roll Call Release IA-0181-15 (which was designed to be shared widely with law enforcement) from the Department of Homeland Security's Office of intelligence and Analysis (I&A) in conjunction with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, titled "Criminal Hackers Target Police to Protest Perceived Injustices," as well as records otherwise responding or reacting to the issues raised in it.

A copy of your request is enclosed. By letter dated July 1, 2019, you were notified in accordance with RTKL section 67.902(b) that PSP required an additional thirty days to prepare this final response to your request.

The PSP determined it does not have any records in its possession, custody, or control that respond to your request. A supporting verification confirming this assertion accompanies this final response letter. Pursuant to the decision in *Jenkins vs. Pennsylvania Department of State*, "It is not a denial of access when an agency does not possess records and [there is no] legal obligation to obtain them (see, e.g. section 67.506 (d)(1))." *Jenkins vs. Pa. Dep't of State*, Docket No. AP 2009-065 (available at, <http://openrecords.state.pa.us>). Please be advised that our office contacted the PSP

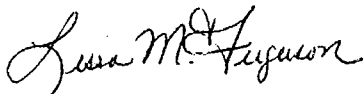
Bureau of Criminal Investigation, and they confirmed they have no records responsive to this request.

To the extent that your request seeks or may be construed to seek records pertaining to covert law enforcement investigations, including, intelligence gathering and analysis, the PSP can neither confirm nor deny the existence of such records without risk of compromising investigations and imperiling individuals. Under No Circumstances, therefore, should this final response be interpreted as indicating otherwise. In all events, should such records exist, they are entirely exempt from public disclosure under the RTKL and Criminal History Record Information Act, 18 Pa. C.S. §§ 9101-9183.

In closing, you have a right to appeal this response in writing to the Office of Open Records, 333 Market Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333. The appropriate OOR appeal form is available for your use at, <https://www.dced.state.pa.us/public/oor/appealformgeneral.pdf>. If you choose to appeal, you must do so within 15 business days of the mailing date of this response and send to the OOR: 1) this response; 2) your request; 3) the reason or reasons why you think PSP wrongfully denied your access to the requested records. *(a statement identifying any flaws in the reasons provided above as to why a requester is not subject to access the requested records under the RTKL).*

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at the telephone number listed below.

Sincerely,



Lissa M. Ferguson  
Deputy Agency Open Records Officer  
Pennsylvania State Police  
Bureau of Records & Identification  
Right-to-Know Law/Subpoena Section  
1800 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110  
Email: RA-psprighttoknow@pa.gov  
1.877.785.7771 (Main); 717.525.5795 (Fax)

Enclosures: PSP/ RTKL Request N° 2019-0668  
Ferguson Verification

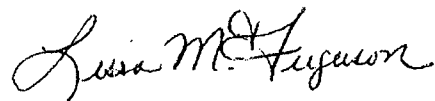
PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE  
DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

VERIFICATION OF  
LISSA M. FERGUSON  
DEPUTY AGENCY OPEN RECORDS OFFICER

I, Lissa M. Ferguson, Deputy Agency Open Records Officer of the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP or Department), am authorized to prepare this verification on Department's behalf in response to PSP/RTKL Request N° 2019-0668. Accordingly, on this 31st day of July, 2019, I verify the following facts to be true and correct, to the best of my knowledge or information and belief:

1. I am familiar with PSP/RTKL Request N° 2019-0668, which is attached to this verification.
2. Utilizing the information contained in the request, I searched all Department databases to which I have access for evidence of any PSP records that may respond to the request.
3. I have determined PSP does not have any records responsive to this RTKL request in its possession, custody, or control.
4. Requestor was advised that our office contacted the PSP Bureau of Criminal Investigation, and they confirmed they have no records responsive to this request.

**I understand that false statements made in this verification are subject to penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.**



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Lissa M. Ferguson  
Deputy Agency Open Records Officer  
Pennsylvania State Police

2019-0668  
7-1-19

**Ott, Cynthia L**

**From:** 75666-86017736@requests.muckrock.com  
**Sent:** Friday, June 21, 2019 1:13 PM  
**To:** SP, PSP RIGHT TO KNOW  
**Subject:** [External] Pennsylvania Right to Know Act Request: Criminal Hackers Target Police to Protest Perceived Injustices (Pennsylvania State Police)  
**Attachments:** DHS-FBI-HackersTargetPolice.pdf; PA\_Right\_to\_Know\_Request\_Form.pdf

**ATTENTION:** This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA\_SPAM@pa.gov.

Pennsylvania State Police  
RTK Office  
1800 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

RECEIVED  
RIGHT-TO-KNOW LAW OFFICE  
SUPPORT UNIT  
2019 JUN 24 A 6:58

June 21, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right to Know Act, I hereby request the following records:

Records mentioning, describing or generated as a result of the 8 May 2015 Roll Call Release IA-0181-15 (which was designed to be shared widely with law enforcement) from the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) in conjunction with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, titled "Criminal Hackers Target Police to Protest Perceived Injustices," as well as records otherwise responding or reacting to the issues raised in it.

I am a member of the news media and request classification as such. I have previously written about the government and its activities, with some reaching over 100,000 readers in outlets such as Gizmodo, MuckRock, Motherboard, Property of the People, Unicorn Riot, and The Outline, among others. As such, as I have a reasonable expectation of publication and my editorial and writing skills are well established. In addition, I discuss and comment on the files online and make them available through non-profits such as the library Internet Archive and the journalist non-profit MuckRock, disseminating them to a large audience. While my research is not limited to this, a great deal of it, including this, focuses on the activities and attitudes of the government itself.

As my primary purpose is to inform about government activities by reporting on it and making the raw data available, I request that fees be waived.

The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.

In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 5 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Emma Best

Filed via MuckRock.com

E-mail (Preferred): 75666-86017736@requests.muckrock.com

Upload documents directly:

[https://accounts.muckrock.com/accounts/login/?next=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.muckrock.com%2Faccounts%2Flogin%2F%3Fnext%3D%252Faccounts%252Fagency\\_login%252Fpennsylvania-state-police-435%252Fcriminal-hackers-target-police-to-protest-perceived-injustices-pennsylvania-state-police-75666%252F%253Femail%253DRA-psprighttoknow%252540pa.gov&url\\_auth\\_token=AAAboJ54dDocag3wfYC6JKuuxYM%3A1heN5p%3AoX0IZsoHF7rVsE-pJE9CPHSoPJE](https://accounts.muckrock.com/accounts/login/?next=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.muckrock.com%2Faccounts%2Flogin%2F%3Fnext%3D%252Faccounts%252Fagency_login%252Fpennsylvania-state-police-435%252Fcriminal-hackers-target-police-to-protest-perceived-injustices-pennsylvania-state-police-75666%252F%253Femail%253DRA-psprighttoknow%252540pa.gov&url_auth_token=AAAboJ54dDocag3wfYC6JKuuxYM%3A1heN5p%3AoX0IZsoHF7rVsE-pJE9CPHSoPJE)

Is this email coming to the wrong contact? Something else wrong? Use the above link to let us know.

For mailed responses, please address (see note):

MuckRock News

DEPT MR 75666

411A Highland Ave

Somerville, MA 02144-2516

PLEASE NOTE: This request is not filed by a MuckRock staff member, but is being sent through MuckRock by the above in order to better track, share, and manage public records requests. Also note that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name rather than "MuckRock News" and the department number) requests might be returned as undeliverable.



RECEIVED  
RIGHT-TO-KNOW LAW OFFICE  
SUBPOENA UNIT  
2019 JUN 24 A 6:58



# ROLL CALL RELEASE

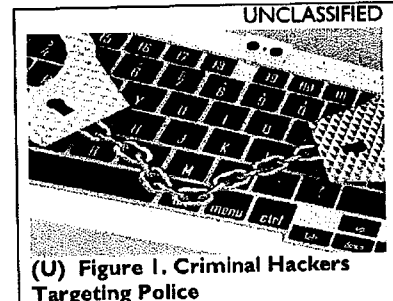
INTELLIGENCE FOR POLICE, FIRE, EMS, AND SECURITY PERSONNEL

8 May 2015

## (U//FOUO) Criminal Hackers Target Police to Protest Perceived Injustices

(U//FOUO) Disruptive cyber attacks by criminal hackers—primarily distributed-denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks—targeting local law enforcement websites have increased since August 2014. We judge that this is almost certainly a result of the heightened coverage surrounding the alleged use of excessive force by law enforcement and an increased focus on incidents of perceived police brutality. The primary impact from the majority of these attacks has been the temporary disruption of the targeted public-facing websites.

- » (U//FOUO) In 2014, the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) observed 53 separate incidents of criminal hackers conducting cyber operations against state and local entities in response to incidents of alleged use of excessive force by law enforcement. The majority of these incidents were low to moderate in effect, most frequently resulting in temporary disruption to targeted websites.
- » (U//FOUO) On the morning of 30 December 2014, unknown criminal hackers disabled a Midwestern police department's public website using a DDoS attack. A post later that morning on a US social-networking site containing the hashtag "#BlackLives Matter" announced that the targeted website was down. The disabling of this website was the third successful attack to disable a law enforcement website in the state within a week—the attacks were limited to the temporary disablement of targeted websites, according to DHS field reporting.
- » (U//FOUO) A criminal hacker using the moniker (at)DigaShadow claimed responsibility on a US social-media site for disrupting access to a Northwestern city police department's website in early December 2014. The DDoS attack, which lasted approximately 10 minutes, prevented the department's in-car terminals from transmitting or receiving traffic, including 911 dispatch requests, according to FBI reporting.



(U) Figure 1. Criminal Hackers Targeting Police

### (U//FOUO) MS-ISAC Distributed-Denial-of-Service Mitigation Recommendations

(U) Proactive protections include:

- » (U) Establish connections with multiple Internet service providers (ISPs) for redundancy.
- » (U) Ensure service-level agreements with ISPs contain provisions for DoS prevention (such as IP address rotation).
- » (U) Conduct rate-limiting of traffic at the network perimeter, and
- » (U) Create backup, remote-site network infrastructure using multiple addressing schemes.

(U) Reactive protections include:

- » (U) Execute ISP address rotation,
- » (U) Block source IP addresses generating DoS traffic at enterprise boundary or within ISP infrastructure, and
- » (U) Acquire increased bandwidth capability from the ISP.

(U//FOUO) See MS-ISAC's "Guide to DDoS Attacks" for additional information:

[http://msisac.cisecurity.org/resources/reports/documents/GuidetoDDoSAttacks\\_000.pdf](http://msisac.cisecurity.org/resources/reports/documents/GuidetoDDoSAttacks_000.pdf).

### (U) Reporting Computer Security Incidents

(U) To report a computer security incident, either contact US-CERT at 888-282-0870, or go to <https://forms.us-cert.gov/report/> and complete the US-CERT Incident Reporting System form. The US-CERT Incident Reporting System provides a secure, web-enabled means of reporting computer security incidents to US-CERT. An incident is defined as a violation or imminent threat of violation of computer security policies, acceptable use policies, or standard computer security practices. In general, types of activity commonly recognized as violating typical security policies include attempts (either failed or successful) to gain unauthorized access to a system or its data, including personally identifiable information; unwanted disruption or denial of service; the unauthorized use of a system for processing or storing data; and changes to system hardware, firmware, or software without the owner's knowledge, instruction, or consent.

IA-0181-15

(U) Prepared by the Office of Intelligence and Analysis (OIA). Coordinated with the FBI. This product is intended to provide cybersecurity awareness to federal, state, local, and private sector first responders in matters that can affect personnel and network security of their respective organizations.

(U) Warning: This document is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with DHS policy relating to FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, the media, or other personnel who do not have a valid need to know without prior approval of an authorized DHS official. State and local homeland security officials may share this document with authorized critical infrastructure and key resource personnel and private sector security officials without further approval from DHS.